

California Commission on Teacher Credentialing
Application for the
Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA) Validity Study Design Team

The California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (Commission) is currently seeking California educators who have experience and expertise in the teaching of reading/language arts to assist in performing a validation study of the Reading Instruction Competence Assessment (RICA). Passage of this examination is required for almost all California candidates seeking their initial Multiple Subject Teaching Credential or Educational Specialist Instruction Credential (special education).

What is the role of the RICA Validity Study Design Team?

Members of the RICA Validity Study Design Team (Design Team) will play a significant role in ensuring that candidates for Multiple Subject Teaching Credentials and Education Specialist Instruction Credentials possess the knowledge and skills necessary for the provision of effective reading instruction to students. The Design Team will make recommendations to the Commission concerning revisions to the RICA. The Commission will only consider applications from the most qualified educators to serve as members of the design team.

Select applicants will be invited to serve on the Design Team, which will review the current RICA Test Specifications to determine if they reflect the current state policy and practice for reading/language arts instruction. This review will be under the direction of the Commission and facilitated by the RICA testing contractor, National Evaluation Systems, Inc. (NES®). During the Design Team meetings, the team members will receive a comprehensive orientation so they may effectively evaluate the RICA test specifications and suggest any appropriate revisions. The members will apply (a) their professional understanding, judgment, and experience in reading/language arts instruction, (b) their knowledge of the California K-12 English–Language Arts Content Standards and the K-12 Reading/Language Arts Framework, and (c) the requirements within the California Education Code to develop the preliminary test specifications. These test specifications will reflect the knowledge and skills needed by beginning California teachers to teach reading. After the design team’s initial review, a survey of their findings will then be distributed statewide to reading/language arts teachers and reading/language arts instruction educators for field review to further build validity for the exam program. The Design Team will use the findings from the validity survey to amend the draft RICA test specifications. The draft RICA test specification will be presented to the Commission for its consideration.

What are the important dates?

Individuals appointed to the Design Team will participate in three 1-2 day meetings. It is anticipated that the meetings will be held in May and November 2006, and May 2007. The meetings will be held in Sacramento. Each member of the Design Team is expected to (a) participate actively in *all* meetings, (b) review written materials in preparation for the meeting, and (c) reflect on multiple perspectives regarding complex issues.

Qualifications: The Commission will consider applications from those seeking appointment to the Design Team who have demonstrated a high level of knowledge and experience in reading/language arts instruction, including but not limited to the following:

- Current or recent California public school classroom teachers who hold appropriate certification for teaching reading and have provided exemplary instruction in reading/language arts for at least three years;
- California teacher educators with at least three years of experience teaching reading/language arts pedagogical courses;
- California district and county reading curriculum specialists;
- Support providers/assessors under the California Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (BTSA) Program who have at least three years of experience providing support to reading/language arts teachers in the BTSA Program;
- Current or recent California public school educators who are certified at the Reading Certificate or Specialist Instruction Credential in Reading level; or
- California instructors providing a grade-level teacher Reading Professional Development Institute (AB 466, Reading First Advanced Trainings, or the current SB 414 program) for an authorized provider.

Reimbursement of Expenses: NES will pay necessary travel and lodging expenses for Design Team members. After each meeting, NES will reimburse team members for parking, mileage, and meal expenses. If necessary, NES will also reimburse school districts for the cost of a substitute teacher for each Design team member who is a classroom teacher. NES cannot provide stipends or honoraria, but the Commission will affirm completion of professional growth hours for those that need hours to renew their professional clear credentials.

Application Instructions: The completed application may be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to the Commission. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. A completed application includes both of the following:

1. Completed 6-page *Application Form for the RICA Validity Study Design Team*
2. A resume, highlighting the applicant's education and experience in reading/language arts instruction (please limit resume to no more than three pages).

Questions: If you have any questions, please contact Yvonne Novelli, Assistant Consultant in the Examinations & Research Unit, at 916-323-6512 or via e-mail or fax.

**Completed applications must be submitted to the Commission by
*January 31, 2006***

Mail to: California Commission on Teacher Credentialing
Professional Services Division
1900 Capitol Avenue
Sacramento, California 95814-4213
Attn: Y. Novelli
or
Fax to (916) 324-8927, Attn: Y. Novelli, or
E-mail to ynovelli@ctc.ca.gov

**CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING
APPLICATION FORM FOR THE
RICA VALIDITY STUDY DESIGN TEAM**

Nominated by: (If you are nominating yourself, write "self")

Name _____

Title _____ School/Institution _____

Personal Information

Name:

Prefix (Ms. Mr. Dr.) _____

Last _____ First _____ Middle Initial _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone (____) _____ FAX (____) _____

E-mail _____

Employer

School District, Organization, College, or University _____

Work Address _____

City _____ County _____ State _____ Zip _____

Business Phone (____) _____ FAX (____) _____

E-mail _____

Preferred Address for Correspondence: Work _____ Home _____

Professional Experience and Education

Areas of Expertise (check all that apply):

_____ Primary (K-3) _____ Middle (4-8) _____ High (9-12) _____ College/University

Current Position (please check all that apply):

____ Elementary Teacher

____ Middle School Teacher

____ Secondary Teacher

____ Special Education Teacher

____ Reading Specialist

____ Reading Curriculum Specialist

____ Elementary Administrator

____ College/University Teacher Educator

____ Other Title: _____

Professional Experience and Education (cont.)

Current Teaching Assignment Subjects or Teacher Candidate Courses Taught:

Grade Level(s) or College Level Taught within the Last 3 Years (please check all that apply):

☐ K ☐ 1-3 ☐ 4-6 ☐ 7-8 ☐ 9-12

☐ Undergraduate ☐ Graduate

Years of Teaching Experience:

☐ 4-6 years ☐ 7-10 years ☐ 11 or more years

Level of Education (highest level attained):

☐ Bachelor's Degree ☐ Master's Degree ☐ Doctoral Degree

☐ Special Area/Field: _____

Have you received full certification to teach in California public schools (i.e., Preliminary, Professional Clear, Clear, or Life)?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, indicate California credential number(s): _____

Which of the following California teaching credentials or certificates do you hold? (Please check all that apply)

☐ Elementary Teaching Credential (Multiple Subject, General Elementary, or Standard Elementary)

☐ Secondary Teaching Credential (Single Subject, General Secondary, or Standard Secondary) in the following area(s) (please indicate):

☐ Education Specialist Credential in the following area(s) (please indicate):

☐ Reading Certificate

☐ Specialist Instruction Credential in Reading

Indicate below the language(s) other than English in which you are academically fluent:

Language _____ Speak _____ Read _____ Write _____

Language _____ Speak _____ Read _____ Write _____

Experience and Education Specifically Related to Reading/Language Arts Instruction in California

- 1a. Grade-level experience teaching reading/language arts within the last 3 years in California (please check all that apply):
☐ K ☐ 1-3 ☐ 4-6 ☐ 7-8 ☐ 9-12
- 1b. University- or college-level experience teaching reading/language arts pedagogy within the last 3 years in California (please check all that apply):
☐ Undergraduate ☐ Graduate
2. Years of teaching reading/language arts and/or reading/language arts pedagogy in California:
☐ 0-3 years ☐ 4-6 years ☐ 7-10 years ☐ 11 or more years
3. Degree(s) emphasizing reading/language arts instruction (check all that apply):
☐ Bachelor's Degree ☐ Master's Degree ☐ Doctoral Degree ☐ Special Degree
Please list major(s) of checked degree(s): _____
4. Professional development preparation/instruction related to teaching reading/language arts within the last 5 years (please note all that apply as follows: P = as student, I = as instructor):
☐ Reading First (AB 466)
☐ State-adopted intervention programs, such as *Breaking the Code* or *Kaleidoscope*
☐ California Professional Development Institutes – Reading (CPDI)
☐ California Subject Matter Project(s)
☐ Others: _____

5. Please indicate any experience you have had teaching reading to students who are (please check all that apply and indicate the actual grade-levels taught and the dates of service):
☐ reading below grade level: ☐ K ☐ 1-3 ☐ 4-6 ☐ 7-8 ☐ 9-12
 dates of service _____
☐ speakers of African-American vernacular English: ☐ K ☐ 1-3 ☐ 4-6 ☐ 7-8 ☐ 9-12
 dates of service _____
☐ English learners: ☐ K ☐ 1-3 ☐ 4-6 ☐ 7-8 ☐ 9-12
 dates of service _____
☐ special education students: ☐ K ☐ 1-3 ☐ 4-6 ☐ 7-8 ☐ 9-12
 dates of service _____
☐ advanced learners: ☐ K ☐ 1-3 ☐ 4-6 ☐ 7-8 ☐ 9-12
 dates of service _____

Experience and Education Specifically Related to Reading/Language Arts Instruction in California (Cont.)

6. Please describe how you have developed your knowledge of the California K-12 English–Language Arts Content Standards and the K-12 Reading/Language Arts Framework, and how you have applied these in your work. As part of your response, describe your knowledge of the current research in reading.

Experience and Education Specifically Related to Reading/Language Arts Instruction in California (Cont.)

7. Please describe how your experiences and/or achievements related to reading/language arts instruction (e.g., teaching, committee work, test development or test scoring, curriculum development, research, publications) qualify you to serve on the RICA Design Team? Include dates of service:

Professional References

Please list three references who you know professionally and who are familiar with your work, background, and talents in reading/language arts instruction. None of these individuals should be related to you. Letters of recommendation are not required.

Name	Position
Address	Phone Number
City	State Zip Code

Name	Position
Address	Phone Number
City	State Zip Code

Name	Position
Address	Phone Number
City	State Zip Code

Request for School/District/Institution Information

Geographic Region Location of Your School/District/Institution

(refer to map):

- ☐ North Coast
- ☐ Northeastern
- ☐ Capital
- ☐ Bay
- ☐ South Bay
- ☐ Delta Sierra
- ☐ Central Valley
- ☐ Costa Del Sur
- ☐ Southern
- ☐ RIMS
- ☐ Los Angeles



Student Population of Your School/District/Institution:

- ☐ Less than 3,000 ☐ 3,000-10,000
- ☐ 10,001-100,000 ☐ Over 100,000

Student Ethnicity of Your School/District/Institution (check all groups that are over 20%):

- ☐ American Indian ☐ Hispanic
- ☐ Asian ☐ African American
- ☐ Pacific Islander ☐ White
- ☐ Filipino ☐ Multiple

Request for Personal Information

The California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC) is committed to having diversity amongst individuals participating in the RICA program and appropriate representation of ethnic groups, genders, and individuals with disabilities. To accomplish this goal, you are asked, but are not required, to provide the following information:

Ethnicity:

- ☐ African American or Black
- ☐ Asian American (e.g., Chinese, Japanese, Korean)
- ☐ Filipino
- ☐ Latin American, Latino, Puerto Rican, or other Hispanic
- ☐ Mexican American or Chicano
- ☐ Native American, American Indian, or Alaskan Native
- ☐ Pacific Island American
- ☐ Southeast Asian American (e.g., Cambodian, Hmong, Khmer, Laotian, Vietnamese)
- ☐ White (non-Hispanic)
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____

Gender:

- ☐ Female ☐ Male

Do you have a disability?

- ☐ No ☐ Yes (Please specify): _____